Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1680
INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGER
USMISSION NATO
USCINCUSNAVEUR LONDON
USCINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN
16TH AF TORREJON
JUSMG/MAAG,SPAIN

CONFIDENTIAL MADRID 2888

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PGOV, PINT, SP

SUBJECT: NWC VISIT WITH PRINCE JUAN CARLOS

1. PRINCE JUAN CARLOS MADE FOLLOWING POINTS OF INTEREST TO VISITING NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE GROUP APRIL 25:

A. IN REPLY TO QUESTION ABOUT FORTHCOMING CHANGES HE MIGHT ENVISAGE, PRINCE ALLUDED TO HIS OWN PERSONAL SITUATION, PRESUMABLY IN REFERENCE TO RUMORS THAT FRANCO MIGHT PASS ON POWERS IN NEAR FUTURE, STATING IN EFFECT HE HAD NO IDEA AND WOULD BE AMONG LAST TO KNOW. "IN 1969", HE SAID, "THEY GAVE ME ONLY TEN DAYS NOTICE." THIS WAS IN APPARENT REFERENCE TO 1969 DECREE WHICH ESTABLISHED HIM AS LEGAL SUCCESSOR TO FRANCO.

B. PRINCE SAID HE MERELY TRIED TO DO BEST HE COULD, PUTTING EMPHASIS ON IMPROVING SPAIN'S IMAGE ABROAD AND DIRECTING HIS ATTENTION TO DOMESTIC AREAS WHERE HE MILHT BE HELPFUL.

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C. HE ALLUDED TO 1966 PRESS LAW AND EVOLVING PRESS

FREEDOMS, STATING THAT PRESS THOUGHT THAT BY CONTINUOUS PRESSURE ON CERTAIN ISSUES, IT WOULD BRING THEM TO HEAD AND ENGENDER ACTION. HE CAUTIONED THAT THIS WAS ILLUSORY, AND THAT ONLY TIME AND EVOLUTION COULD EFFECT SOME OF THE CHANGES THE FUTURE MIGHT HOLD.

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Subject: NWC VISIT WITH PRINCE JUAN CARLOS TAGS: PGOV, PINT, SP, NWC, (CARLOS, JUAN)
To: STATE

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